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Examiner: Jeffrey R. Snay

Group:

1743

Date: March 4, 2004

Client Code: 1159

Facsimile No.: 703-872-9306

From: James M. Smith, Esq.

Subject: Paper: Petition to Accept Priority Claim with Amendment and Transmittal

Docket No.: 1159.1006-008

Applicants: Steven A. Bogen, *et al.*

Serial No.: 10/027,746

Filing Date: December 20, 2001

Number of pages including this cover sheet: 5Please confirm receipt of facsimile: Yes X No **Comments:**

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Steven A. Bogen, Herbert H. Loeffler and John A. Purbrick
Application No.: 10/027,746 Group: 1743
Filed: December 20, 2001 Examiner: Jeffrey R. Snay
Confirmation No.: 4240
For: RANDOM ACCESS SLIDE STAINER WITH INDEPENDENT SLIDE
HEATING REGULATION

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on:	
3-4-04	<i>Jennifer A. Tardiff</i>
Date	Signature
<i>Jennifer A. Tardiff</i>	
Typed or printed name of person signing certificate	

PETITION TO ACCEPT PRIORITY CLAIM

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.78(a)(3) Applicant hereby petitions for acceptance of an unintentionally delayed claim under 37 U.S.C. 120 for the benefit of prior filed application serial number 09/032,676, filed February 27, 1998, now U.S. patent 6,183,693.

- (i) The reference required by 35 U.S.C. 120 and 37 C.F.R. 1.78(a)(2) to the prior filed application is being made by the attached amendment.
- (ii) Please charge the surcharge of \$1,330.00 set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(t) to Deposit Account No. 08-0380.
- (iii) The entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 C.F.R. 1.78(a)(2) and this date was unintentional.

Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 08-0380.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

By *[Signature]*
James M. Smith
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Telephone (978) 341-0036
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Concord, Massachusetts 01742-9133
Dated: 3/4/04

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JMS/jar
March 4, 2004

PATENT APPLICATION
Attorney's Docket No. 1159.1006-008

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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AMENDMENT TO INCLUDE PRIORITY CLAIM

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend the application as follows: